



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD643]

Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permits and permit amendments.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that permits and permit amendments have been issued to the following entities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

ADDRESSES: The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request via email to NMFS.PrIComments@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D. (Permit No. 21636-01), Carrie Hubbard (Permit No. 27460), and Jennifer Skidmore (Permit No. 26667-01); at (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests for a permit or permit amendment, had been submitted by the below-named applicants. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the activities, go to <https://www.federalregister.gov> and search on the permit number provided in table 1 below.

Table 1 -- Issued Permits and Permit Amendments

Permit No.	RTID	Applicant	Previous Federal Register Notice	Issuance Date
21636-01	0648-XG493	Joshua Schiffman, M.D., University of Utah, 2000 Circle of Hope Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84112	84 FR 4441, February 15, 2019	December 19, 2023

26667-02	0648-XD507	North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management, P.O. Box 69, Barrow, AK 99723 (Taqluk Hepa, Responsible Party)	88 FR 77083, November 8, 2023	December 19, 2023
27460	0648-XD363	José Vázquez-Medina, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 3040 Valley Life Sciences Bldg, No. 3140, Berkeley, CA 94720	88 FR 64413, September 19, 2023	December 14, 2023

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permit was based on a finding that such permits: (1) were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Authority: The requested permits have been issued under the MMPA of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the ESA of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), as applicable.

Dated: January 8, 2024.

Julia M. Harrison,

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,

Office of Protected Resources,

National Marine Fisheries Service.